

STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

907 KAR 8:035E

(1) This emergency administrative regulation is being promulgated in conjunction with six (6) other administrative regulations – 907 KAR 8:005E, Definitions for 907 KAR Chapter 8; 907 KAR 8:010E, Independent occupational therapy service coverage provisions and requirements; 907 KAR 8:015E, Independent occupational therapy service reimbursement provisions and requirements; 907 KAR 8:020E; Independent physical therapy service coverage provisions and requirements; 907 KAR 8:025E, Independent physical therapy service reimbursement provisions and requirements; and 907 KAR 8:030E, Independent speech pathology service coverage provisions and requirements – to expand the base of therapy service providers to ensure that Medicaid recipients have access to these services in accordance with federal requirements.

(2) This action must be taken on an emergency basis to comply with a federal mandate.

(3) This emergency administrative regulation shall be replaced by an ordinary administrative regulation filed with the Regulations Compiler.

(4) The ordinary administrative regulation is identical to this emergency administrative regulation.

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

Audrey Tayse Haynes, Secretary
Cabinet for Health and Family Services

1 CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

2 Department for Medicaid Services

3 Division of Policy and Operations

4 (New Emergency Administrative Regulation)

5 907 KAR 8:035E. Speech pathology service reimbursement provisions and requirements.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 205.520

7 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 194A.030(2), 194A.050(1), 205.520(3), 42 C.F.R.

8 440.130, 42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(13)(C).

9 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: The Cabinet for Health and Family
10 Services, Department for Medicaid Services, has a responsibility to administer the
11 Medicaid program. KRS 205.520(3) authorizes the cabinet, by administrative regulation,
12 to comply with any requirement that may be imposed or opportunity presented by federal
13 law to qualify for federal Medicaid funds. This administrative regulation establishes the
14 Department for Medicaid Services' reimbursement provisions and requirements regarding
15 speech pathology services provided by an independent speech-language pathologist to
16 Medicaid recipients who are not enrolled with a managed care organization.

17 Section 1. General Requirements. For the department to reimburse for a speech
18 pathology service under this administrative regulation, the:

19 (a) Speech-language pathologist shall meet the provider requirements established in
20 907 KAR 8:030; and

(b) Speech pathology service shall meet the coverage and related requirements established in 907 KAR 8:030.

Section 3. Reimbursement. The department shall reimburse for a speech pathology service provided by a speech-language pathologist, in accordance with 907 KAR 8:030 and Section 2 of this administrative regulation, at 63.75 percent of the rate for the service listed on the Kentucky-specific Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

Section 4. Not Applicable to Managed Care Organizations. A managed care organization shall not be required to reimburse in accordance with this administrative regulation for a service covered pursuant to:

(1) 907 KAR 8:030; and

(2) This administrative regulation.

Section 5. Federal Approval and Federal Financial Participation. The department's reimbursement for services pursuant to this administrative regulation shall be contingent upon:

(1) Receipt of federal financial participation for the reimbursement; and

(2) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' approval for the reimbursement.

Section 6. Appeals. A provider may appeal an action by the department as established in 907 KAR 1:671.

907 KAR 8:035E

REVIEWED:

Date

Lawrence Kissner, Commissioner
Department for Medicaid Services

APPROVED:

Date

Audrey Tayse Haynes, Secretary
Cabinet for Health and Family Services

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Administrative Regulation Number: 907 KAR 8:035E
Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Medicaid Services
Agency Contact: Stuart Owen (502) 564-4321

- (1) Provide a brief summary of:
 - (a) What this administrative regulation does: This is a new administrative regulation which establishes the Department for Medicaid Services' reimbursement provisions and requirements regarding speech pathology services provided by an independently enrolled speech-language pathologist to Medicaid recipients who are not enrolled with a managed care organization. Managed care organizations are not required to reimburse for speech pathology services pursuant to this administrative regulation. Currently, the Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) covers speech pathology services when provided in a physician's office (and the physician is the billing entity), when provided as a home health service (billed by a home health agency), when provided in an outpatient hospital (billed by the outpatient hospital), when provided in a nursing facility as an ancillary service, when provided in an intermediate care facility for individuals with an intellectual disability as an ancillary service, or in a 1915(c) home and community based waiver program. This administrative regulation authorizes speech-language pathologists to enroll as independent Medicaid providers, rather than work for or under contract with, one (1) of the aforementioned provider types and be reimbursed for speech pathology services provided to Medicaid recipients. DMS is expanding the speech pathology service provider base in concert with expanding the Medicaid eligibility groups authorized or mandated by the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act created a new eligibility group, mandated for all states, comprised of former foster care individuals between the ages of nineteen (19) and twenty-six (26) who aged out of foster care while receiving Medicaid coverage. Additionally, the Affordable Care Act authorized states to add an eligibility group known as the "expansion group." The expansion group is comprised of adults under sixty-five (65), who are not pregnant, who have income below 133 percent of the federal poverty level, and who do not otherwise qualify for Medicaid benefits. DMS must expand its provider base to meet the demand of the additional Medicaid recipients DMS anticipates beginning January 1, 2014 (in order to ensure recipient access to care.) This administrative regulation is being promulgated in conjunction with two (2) other administrative regulations necessary to implement this initiative – 907 KAR 8:030, Independent speech pathology service coverage provisions and requirements and 907 KAR 8:005, Definitions for KAR Chapter 8.
 - (b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: This administrative regulation is necessary to expand the Medicaid base of speech pathology service providers in order to meet the demand for care (thus, to ensure recipient access to care.)
 - (c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: This administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing

statutes by enabling the Department for Medicaid Services to meet the requirement of ensuring recipient access to care.

- (d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This administrative regulation will assist in the effective administration of the authorizing statutes by enabling the Department for Medicaid Services to meet the requirement of ensuring recipient access to care.
- (2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:
 - (a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: This is a new administrative regulation rather than an amendment to an existing administrative regulation.
 - (b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: This is a new administrative regulation rather than an amendment to an existing administrative regulation.
 - (c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: This is a new administrative regulation rather than an amendment to an existing administrative regulation.
 - (d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This is a new administrative regulation rather than an amendment to an existing administrative regulation.
 - (3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local government affected by this administrative regulation: Any speech-language pathologist licensed in Kentucky may be affected if the individual wishes to enroll in the Medicaid Program and be reimbursed for speech pathology services provided to Medicaid recipients. Additionally, Medicaid recipients in need of speech pathology services will be affected by the administrative regulation. The Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) is unable to predict how many speech-language pathologists will choose to enroll in the Medicaid Program nor how many Medicaid recipients will receive services from independently enrolled speech-language pathologists.
 - (4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:
 - (a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment. A physical therapist who wishes to provide services to Medicaid recipients will need to enroll with the Medicaid Program as prescribed in the Medicaid provider enrollment regulation (complete and application and submit it to DMS) and sign agreements with managed care organizations if the agency wishes to provide services to Medicaid recipients who are enrolled with a managed care organization.
 - (b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it

- cost each of the entities identified in question (3). A physical therapist who wishes to provide speech pathology to Medicaid recipients could experience administrative costs associated with enrolling with the Medicaid Program.
- (c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3). A speech-language pathologist who enrolls with the Medicaid Program will benefit by being reimbursed for services provided to Medicaid recipients. Medicaid recipients in need of speech pathology services will benefit from an expanded base of providers from which to receive speech pathology services
- (5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost to implement this administrative regulation:
- (a) Initially: The Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) estimates that implementing this administrative regulation will increase DMS expenditures by \$1.43 million (\$271,530 state funds/\$1.16 million federal funds) for state fiscal year 2014.
- (b) On a continuing basis: DMS estimates that implementing this administrative regulation will cost DMS approximately \$1.91 million (\$362,000 state funds/\$1.55 million federal funds) annually, beginning with state fiscal year 2015.
- (6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation: The sources of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation are federal funds authorized under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and matching funds of general fund appropriations.
- (7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment. Neither an increase in fees nor funding is necessary to implement this administrative regulation.
- (8) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees: This administrative regulation neither establishes nor increases any fees.
- (9) Tiering: Is tiering applied? (Explain why tiering was or was not used.) Tiering is not applied as the policies apply equally to the regulated entities.

FEDERAL MANDATE ANALYSIS COMPARISON

Regulation Number: 907 KAR 8:035E

Agency Contact: Stuart Owen (502) 564-4321

1. Federal statute or regulation constituting the federal mandate. 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(30).

2. State compliance standards. KRS 205.520(3) states:

“Further, it is the policy of the Commonwealth to take advantage of all federal funds that may be available for medical assistance. To qualify for federal funds the secretary for health and family services may by regulation comply with any requirement that may be imposed or opportunity that may be presented by federal law. Nothing in KRS 205.510 to 205.630 is intended to limit the secretary's power in this respect.”

3. Minimum or uniform standards contained in the federal mandate. Medicaid programs are not required to cover speech pathology; however, each state's Medicaid program is required (for the services it does cover) to ensure recipient access to those services. As the Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) covers speech pathology services, it must ensure that an adequate provider base exists to ensure recipient access to care. A relevant federal law – 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(30) requires a state's Medicaid program to “provide such methods and procedures relating to the utilization of, and the payment for, care and services available under the plan (including but not limited to utilization review plans as provided for in section 1903(i)(4)) as may be necessary to safeguard against unnecessary utilization of such care and services and to assure that payments are consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care and are sufficient to enlist enough providers so that care and services are available under the plan at least to the extent that such care and services are available to the general population in the geographic area.”

Creating a new base of authorized providers comports with the intent of the aforementioned federal law.

4. Will this administrative regulation impose stricter requirements, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements, than those required by the federal mandate? The administrative regulation does not impose stricter than federal requirements.

5. Justification for the imposition of the stricter standard, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements. The administrative regulation does not impose stricter than federal requirements.

FISCAL NOTE ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Regulation Number: 907 KAR 8:035E

Agency Contact: Stuart Owen (502) 564-4321

1. What units, parts or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation? The Department for Medicaid Services will be affected by the amendment to this administrative regulation.
2. Identify each state or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation. This administrative regulation authorizes the action taken by this administrative regulation.
3. Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect.
 - (a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year? No revenue is anticipated.
 - (b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years? No revenue is anticipated.
 - (c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year? The Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) estimates that implementing this administrative regulation will increase DMS expenditures by \$1.43 million (\$271,530 state funds/\$1.16 million federal funds) for state fiscal year 2014.
 - (d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years? DMS estimates that implementing this administrative regulation will cost DMS approximately \$1.91 million (\$362,000 state funds/\$1.55 million federal funds) annually, beginning with state fiscal year 2015.

Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.

Revenues (+/-):

Expenditures (+/-):

Other Explanation: